Appendix II

The following is a list of local, national and international organizations that may be expected to participate in a Bipole III Line licensing process.

Local Organizations

Boreal Forest Network
The Boreal Forest Network identifies itself as an environmental justice organization of environmentalists, indigenous peoples and scientists concerned with the protection and sustainable use of the boreal forest, one of the three great forest systems of the world. Their website states that the boreal is also home to almost a million indigenous people, many of whom retain a strong connection with their cultures and traditions and value their traditional economies.

The Boreal Forest Network is strongly opposed to the eastern route and has published papers expressing a preference for the western route. It is expected that they will be very active in any licensing process for Bipole III Line.

Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER)
CIER is a national, First Nation-directed environmental non-profit organization with charitable status and is based in Winnipeg, Manitoba. CIER was founded in 1994 by a small group of First Nation leaders from across Canada who recognized the need for Aboriginal peoples to have the capacity to solve environmental problems affecting their lands and resources. CIER received federal non-profit corporate status in 1995 and became a registered charity in 2000. CIER develops and implements sustainable solutions to proactively address environmental issues affecting First Nations lands and resources.

CIER appeared at the Wuskwatim hearings and can be expected to participate in a Bipole III Line licensing process.

Consumers Association of Canada – MB Chapter/Manitoba Society of Seniors
The Consumers' Association of Canada describes itself as an independent, non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to educating and informing consumers and to representing the best interests of consumers to all levels of government and to all sectors of society. The Manitoba Society of Seniors represents Manitobans 50 plus by promoting their needs and concerns.

These two organizations are usually represented by common legal counsel and usually provide a common presentation at hearings such as the Wuskwatim licensing process and rate applications before the Public Utilities Board. They focus on both environmental and economic issues.

Manitoba Industrial Power Users Group (MIPUG)
MIPUG represents the large industrial power users in the Province. They have the financial capability to hire experts in various areas of expertise as deemed advisable. While not an environmental organization, MIPUG appeared at the Wuskwatim hearing and can be expected to appear at a Bipole III Line hearing focusing on security of supply and economics. The greater cost of a western route will be of concern to them.

Manitoba Wildlands
Manitoba Wildlands identifies itself as a Manitoba based non-profit environmental organization that continues the protected areas work of WWF Canada and Nature Canada in the province. According to its website, it works with Manitoba communities, industry sectors and other environmental organizations. Fulfillment of public policy to establish protected areas, which represent our lands and waters, is the focus of Manitoba Wildlands. The organization also provides international, national and regional information about climate change, water, energy, species, biodiversity, and forests.

Manitoba Wildlands participated in the Wuskwatim hearing process and can be expected to be participate at future hearings regarding Manitoba Hydro facilities. They currently are working for and providing advice to the Poplar River First Nation.

Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba
The mission of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba is to empower women to improve the quality of life for themselves, their families and society. PCWM acts as an advocacy body at the provincial level on behalf of various women's groups and organizations concerning a wide range of issues relating generally to the improvement of social conditions for the community and family.

It is possible that the PCWM could appear at a hearing regarding Bipole III Line approval focusing primarily on social issues.

Resource Conservation Manitoba (RCM)
RCM is a non-profit, non-governmental organization directed by an elected community board. RCM's mission is to promote ecological sustainability through environmental education and to develop alternatives to current practices. Their programs focus on sustainable transportation, waste reduction, climate change, and sustainable living. In addition, RCM's elected community board makes formal presentations on issues such as utility rates, extended producer responsibility, ecological fiscal reform, and urban planning.

RCM promotes applied, ecological sustainability through environmental education and the development of alternatives to current unsustainable practices.

RCM did not participate in the Wuskwatim hearings and may or may not become involved in a Bipole III licencing process.

Time To Respect Earth's Ecosystems (TREE)
TREE describes itself as committed to the advancement of a more sustainable society in which the planet's natural endowments of living and nonliving systems and resources are valued, respected and conserved. Recognizing that this natural legacy is finite and subject to degradation and depletion, TREE promotes eco-efficiency, improving the ratio of social benefits to environmental harms as essential pillars of a sustainable society.

TREE participated in the Wuskwatim hearing and can be expected to participate in future hearings focusing primarily on issues of sustainability, particularly energy conservation, alternatives to northern generation, and the socio-economic consequences of alternatives.

National Organizations

Canadian Boreal Initiative
The Canadian Boreal Initiative (CBI) describes itself as "working with a wide range of conservation organizations, First Nations, industry and other interested parties to link science, policy and conservation activities in Canada's boreal forest." Located in Ottawa, CBI also partners with non-governmental organizations, First Nations and others across the country in on-the-ground boreal conservation work. The Canadian Boreal Initiative is supported financially by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

While CBI is unlikely to participate directly in the Bipole III licensing process, they will be involved through their partners doing on-the-ground conservation work.

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)
CPAWS is a national organization with 13 chapters across the country, including a Manitoba chapter. It has a membership of 20,000 and a staff of 50 with an annual budget of almost $5,000,000. One of the organization's primary objectives is protection of the boreal forest. As a signatory to the Boreal Forest Conservation Framework released by the Canadian Boreal Initiative, the goal of CPAWS is to protect at least 50% of Canada's boreal forest in areas off-limits to development.

CPAWS has issued a public warning regarding the proposed transmission of power between Manitoba and Ontario, which would bisect Ontario's northern boreal region. CPAWS urges governments to proceed with caution subject to the following conditions:

- The project must demonstrate that it is better than alternatives
- Routes for the project should proceed through already fragmented landscapes before intact areas are disturbed
- If fragmenting the intact landscape is necessary, then it should proceed only after conservation-based land use planning determines how to protect the region's ecological integrity
- Carbon implications must be fully accounted for
- Aboriginal peoples have constitutionally protected rights that require governments to fully consult and accommodate these rights

CPAWS holds the position that for hydro-electric facilities to be truly "green," they must be located close to the end user to eliminate the impacts of long transmission lines.

Given their focus on the boreal forest at both the national and Manitoba chapter level, CPAWS is likely to choose to participate in the Bipole III Line licensing process.

David Suzuki Foundation

The David Suzuki Foundation is a large environmental foundation funded largely by individual donations and with substantial media presence and experience. Global conservation is one of the Foundation's primary objectives. That prominently includes protecting the boreal forest. They could well participate in the Bipole III Line licensing process.

Nature Canada (formerly Canadian Nature Federation)

Nature Canada is a member-based, non-profit conservation organization. Their network includes 40,000 supporters and more than 350 naturalist organizations across Canada.

Their mission is to protect nature, its diversity, and the processes that sustain it. The focus of Nature Canada is on effecting change on issues of national significance, including bird conservation, wilderness protection, endangered species and national parks.

Nature Canada may well participate in the Bipole III Line licensing process, as it would involve routing through the boreal forest, the nesting grounds of many species of migratory birds.

Sierra Club of Canada

The mission of the Sierra Club of Canada is to develop a diverse, well-trained grassroots network working to protect the integrity of our global ecosystems. The Sierra Club of Canada's mission focuses on five overriding threats:

- loss of animal and plant species;
- deterioration of the planet's oceans and atmosphere;
- the ever-growing presence of toxic chemicals in all living things;
- destruction of our remaining wilderness; and
- spiralling population growth and over consumption.

While not participating in the Wuskwatim process, given their dedication to maintaining the ecological integrity of the remaining wilderness, the Sierra Club could choose to participate in the Bipole III licencing process.

International Organizations

Natural Resources Defense Council

NRDC is a large, vocal and influential organization with 1.2 million members and has partnered previously with Canadian and Manitoban environmental organizations. Their

mission is to safeguard the earth – its people, plants and animals – and the natural systems on which all life depends. The NRDC often aligns itself with high profile individuals that attract media attention. In the case of the boreal forest, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has taken an active role in protecting the forest of eastern Manitoba.

The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal, among others, have identified NRDC as one of America's most powerful and effective environmental groups. By fighting in court, working through Government, and mobilizing millions of people worldwide, NRDC has stopped powerful corporate interests from implementing projects that the NRDC believed threatened air and water quality, public lands and wildlife habitats.

The NRDC BioGems campaign [which prominently includes the east side boreal forest] empowers citizens to take effective online action in defence of our planet's most endangered wild places"[4]

The NRDC website offers specific commentary on the Manitoba commitment to protect the east side as follows:

> "Until recently the wildest stretch of the forest along the border of Manitoba and Ontario was in danger of losing these nesting grounds to new hydropower development. **But in May 2005, the Manitoba government announced that it will seek alternative routes for proposed hydro transmission lines that would have cut through the forest** [emphasis added]. Yet until the government grants permanent protection to the region, the threat of transmission lines, roads, mining and logging remains. Indeed, Manitoba Hydro's president has said that the recent decision concerning transmission lines does not mean that the company is ruling out development in the region, only that it is looking at other options."

The NRDC is a vocal supporter of the proposed United Nations World Heritage Site and is working with the Poplar River First Nation to assist them in achieving their goals.

NRDC is almost certain to participate in the licensing of Bipole III Line, particularly if an east side route is selected. Given their history and resources available to them that participation could include both intervention at a hearing and legal action in an attempt to prevent or delayconstruction. It is unknown, but possible that they could oppose a west side routing as well.

In addition to NRDC, there may be other American or European organizations that national and local environmental groups could align themselves with, if they feel international intervention would assist them in achieving their objectives.

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[4] NRDC Web Site: www.savebiogems.org